

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/635,373	KING ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Wen-Tai Lin	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--  
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 11/23/04 and telephone interview held on 12/27/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13 and 15-34, renumbered as 1-33.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 8/9/2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                       |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                         |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.  |

*Wen-Tai Lin* 1/4/05

### DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

2. Authorization for the examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Keiko Ichiye, reg. no. 45460, on December 27, 2004.

3. In the claims:

Please replace claims 1, 4, 6, 12, 15, 23 and 25 with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A directed web browsing system comprising:  
a customizable director residing at a client system and being free of a universal resource locator entry element, the customizable director operable to provide web browsing capabilities by pulling a plurality of web pages from a channel server, and comprising:

a border portion having a forward element, a play element and a back element;

a display portion operable to display a first web page, the first web page having a link, the link having an associated second web page; and

an exclusive set of first web pages associated with the customizable director and wherein a user associated with the customizable director is required to retrieve at least

one of the first web pages prior to retrieving a second web page distinct from the first web pages.

4. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the border portion further comprises at least one channel button operable to select a category of content from ~~a channel~~ the channel server.
6. (Currently Amended) A method for directed web browsing comprising:  
providing a director residing at a client system, the director being free of a universal resource locator entry element, the director operable to provide web browsing capabilities by pulling a plurality of web pages from a channel server;  
displaying, using the director, a first web page having a first link, the first link having an associated second web page;  
selecting the first link;  
determining whether a predetermined cycle time associated with the first web page has expired; and  
displaying a third web page in response to the expiration of the predetermined cycle time.
12. (Currently Amended) A method for directed web browsing comprising:  
customizing a director residing at a client system, the director being free of a universal resource locator entry element, the director operable to provide web browsing capabilities by pulling a plurality of web pages from a channel server;  
determining a first web page to present to a user associated with the director, the first web page having a link associated with a second web page; and  
preventing the user from requesting a third web page distinct from the first and second web pages by ~~preventing the user from providing~~ removing at least a portion of a uniform resource locator associated with the third web page from the first and second web pages.
15. (Currently Amended) A method for directed web browsing comprising:

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customizing a director residing at a client system, the director being free of a universal resource locator entry element, the director operable to provide web browsing capabilities by pulling a plurality of web pages from a channel server, wherein customizing the director comprises:

- editing a border associated with the director;
- editing a display area associated with the director;
- adding at least one navigation element to the border; and
- adding at least one sponsor related element to the border;

determining a first web page to present to a user associated with the director, the first web page having a link associated with a second web page;

determining a cycle time associated with the first web page, the cycle time indicating the length of time the first web page is to be displayed to the user; and

preventing the user from requesting a third web page distinct from the first and second web pages by ~~preventing the user from providing~~ removing at least a portion of a uniform resource locator associated with the third web page from the first and second web pages.

23. (Currently Amended) The method for directed web browsing according to Claim 22, wherein determining network performance statistics comprises:

receiving, at the director, a selection of a statistics enabled uniform resource locator (URL) associated with the remote site;

communicating a statistics enabled URL to ~~a channel~~ the channel server;

receiving, at the director, a request to determine network performance statistics;

determining network performance data between the director and the remote site;

and

communicating the network performance data to the channel server.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for directed web browsing comprising:  
providing a graphical user interface;

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displaying a folder on the graphical user interface;

displaying a director icon in the folder, the director icon having an associated director residing at a client system, the director being free of a universal resource locator entry element, the director operable to provide web browsing capabilities by pulling a plurality of web pages from a channel server, the director having an associated exclusive set of first web pages associated with the director and wherein a user associated with the director is required to retrieve at least one of the first web pages prior to retrieving a second web page distinct from the first web pages;

selecting a selected one of the first web pages to present to a user associated with the director in response to the selection of the associated director icon; and

preventing the user from requesting a third web page distinct from the first and second web pages by ~~preventing the user from providing~~ removing at least a portion of a uniform resource locator associated with the third web page from the first and second web pages.

4. The abstract is rewritten to limit its length within 150 words (see the attached page).

5. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

-- CLIENT-SIDE DIRECTOR FOR CUSTOMIZABLE NETWORK DATA RETRIEVAL --.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wen-Tai Lin whose telephone number is (571)272-3969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00) .

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571)272-3964. The fax phone

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numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:


(703)872-9306 for official communications; and

(571)273-3969 for status inquires draft communication.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Wen-Tai Lin

January 26, 2005



1/26/05

### ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A client-side director is presented. The director is free of a universal resource locator entry element and provides web-browsing capabilities to a user using services provided by an operating system. The director displays a web page associated with a first web site in the site list. The director may also be used to collect network performance statistics between the client and a remote site. A web page may be filtered by removing links listed as forbidden by site criteria. One or more content items may be generated by the users of the director and distributed by a channel server to other users. The channel server uses a unique identifier associated with each director and a subscriber database to determine which directors to send the content to. An identifier module and an identifier database are used by the channel to distribute the content to the directors.